

ON THE MOVE

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Vision

Safer Communities
Through Successful
Youth.

Mission Statement

ADJC enhances public protection by assisting in the changing of delinquent thinking and behaviors of juvenile offenders committed to the Department



FY 2008 Accomplishments

The Arizona Department of Juvenile Corrections (ADJC) accomplished many projects and initiatives in fiscal year 2008. Highlighted below are just a few. To read the full annual report, '*Motivated and Moving Forward*' visit our website at www.azdjc.gov.

In FY '08, ADJC:

- Developed a new behavioral management system called *System for Change* which leads to a reduction in violence within secure care, provides staff with behavior management tools, treatment approaches and educational expectations for youth, and focuses on clear communication of youth expectations.
- Developed an evidence-based sex offender program that includes a clinical plan of services for juvenile sex offenders and staff training who have contact with youth sex offenders.
- Black Canyon School formed a Transformation Team committed to addressing gender responsive programming for the girls at the facility. Positive changes include integrating Dialectical Behavioral Therapy (DBT) skills training for all girls, staff and families, and staff training in gender responsiveness issues.
- Implemented the Readiness for Release/Transition Planning and Release Procedures that will guide juveniles toward reentry back to the community, and will help staff ensure that all steps and practices are followed for an efficient and thorough planning process.
- Revised ADJC's Incident Reporting System to include gang information tracking and identification, and to ensure improved methods in suicide prevention and reporting.
- Developed a Therapy Dog Program that helps juveniles during crisis, acts as a bridge for communication with secure care clinical staff, and can be used in instances when a youth has emotions of grief, loss and trauma. Hannah the therapy dog, is teamed with YCO II Tricia Vanderzee and both have gone through extensive training to ensure the program is a success.
- Governor Janet Napolitano toured Black Canyon School and ate at the school's culinary arts dining room, the Pink Diamond Café. She gave students the opportunity to ask questions and to share their dreams for the future.

ADJC FY 2008 Accomplishments, Cont.

- Three Eagle Point School youth attended the 2008 Arizona Regional Science and Engineering Fair and won first place awards in their divisions, as well as several auxiliary awards.
- 325 youth tested for the GED during the 07-'08 school year and 203 passed to receive their GED. This was a passing rate of 72%; state passing rate is 67%.
- Black Canyon School became the first ADJC school to have an entire testing group pass the AIMS testing.
- Boys from Adobe Mountain School are now chosen to participate in the Culinary Arts Program offered at Black Canyon School.
- Six Black Canyon girls participated in the Skills USA State Championship. One student won the gold medal for prepared speech competition, a gold medal in the regional competition for extemporaneous speaking and a bronze medal for interviews. Another student won the silver medal for extemporaneous speaking.
- Libraries opened at each secure care facility/schools.
- The building trades classes offered during school utilize the National Center for Construction, Education and Research curriculum. Youth who complete the construction module and earn a certification are placed on a preferred hiring list and are able to obtain employment at a faster rate, in some cases, before their release date.
- IBM Mentor Place Behind the Walls is the first mentor program at Catalina Mountain School designed and piloted by IBM. The areas of focus include technology training, academic assistance, career counseling, resume writing, power point presentation and communication skills.
- ADJC's schools are now a member of the Athletics Interscholastic Association (AIA) that allows youth to participate in intramural sports programs such as volleyball for girls and soccer for boys. This is the first time that ADJC youth will compete against other AIA teams.
- The Arizona Correctional Educators (ACE), Inc. awarded the ACE Correctional Educator/Professional of the Year award to Donna Bauman, a teacher with Catalina Mountain School. Ken Zeigler, a former teacher at Eagle Point School was recognized by ACE with the Innovative Program of the Year award.
- In FY '08, secure care youth and parole youth in the community accounted for \$24,563.52 in restitution payments.
- Paroled youth participated in the Work and Learn program that allows youth to complete their community service work hours, learn employment skills and pay restitution, if owed. This year, our community partners included: Habitat for Humanity, Special Olympics, St. Vincent de Paul Thrift Store, St. Mary's Food Bank, Save the Family Foundation, and African American Legislative Days Conference at the State Capitol.
- The Office of Due Process conducted 475 revocation hearings, 14 deferred revocation hearings, 11 disciplinary hearings, and granted 49 absolute discharges in FY '08.
- The Office for Restorative Justice assisted 146 victims throughout Arizona by educating victims about the function and role of ADJC and advising victims of their rights afforded to them per statute.

Youth Success Stories

Youth Kayla was a very young meth addict when first committed to ADJC in 2004. She had been living on the streets with other runaways. At BCS, Kayla obtained her GED, completed two classes at a community college and expressed an interest in nursing school. She is now drug free and a law-ful citizen. Kayla was granted an absolute discharge in July 2007.

Youth Henry received treatment for a serious drug addiction problem while in secure care. Once released, he continued counseling for substance abuse and anger management in the community. He is now in school full time and is no longer using drugs and alcohol. Henry plays sports in high school and is working hard to earn a scholarship for college. Henry was granted an absolute discharge in July 2007.

Youth Cisco obtained his GED while at EPS and addressed a serious family issue in his treatment—his older brother who was sentenced to adult corrections while he was at EPS. Cisco completed his community service hours, attained a job through Voc. Rehab., and has disengaged from negative peers. Cisco was granted an absolute discharge in June 2008.

ADJC FY 2008 Accomplishments, Cont.

- Victims' Rights Advocates provided 1078 written notifications of youths' status; and contacted 325 victims for follow-up and to offer additional services.
- The Quality Assurance team conducted eight formal audits, two per secure care facility; Inspectors performed 669 inspections that lead to 170 areas of non-compliance issues to be addressed.
- Quality Assurance developed a standardized measurement tool for use during inspections and formal audits.
- The Investigations Unit increased the number of investigators trained in child forensic interviewing techniques. Also, two additional Special Investigators graduated from the police academy in FY '08.
- The Warrant Unit extended their network of collaboration with agencies in California, New Mexico, Texas, Nevada and Utah. They were directly involved in the apprehension of 80 parole absconders in FY '08.
- Over 30 positive media stories about ADJC were featured either through print, radio, or broadcast.
- The Research and Development (R/D) Unit completed the Dynamic Risk Instrument (DRI) and advocated for the release of low risk youth who are past their minimum release dates. R/D also completed studies on employee turnover and nursing staffing, and produced forecasts that accurately anticipate future secure care populations.
- ADJC added digital cameras in classrooms and housing units to make it easier for staff to monitor these areas and to better respond to an incident. The recorded images have been useful in conducting investigations and they are also used during training sessions to improve officer response.

Director's Corner

Changing the delinquent thinking and behaviors of juvenile offenders committed to the department offers more than immediate protection for the citizens of our communities, it protects their futures as well. In fiscal year 2008, ADJC has enhanced educational, behavioral, mental, and medical health services for juveniles. Specialized treatment for youth with significant substance abuse/dependence, sexual offenses, or critical mental health issues continues to improve to meet the needs of the youth in our care. Every member of the ADJC team is committed to the success of each youth and their families.

I would like to thank Governor Janet Napolitano, the Arizona State Legislature, the department's staff and the citizens of Arizona for their continued support of the success and safety of our youth and staff.

Feel free to contact me with any comments at (602) 542-4302 or by email at mbranham@azdjic.gov.